AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1-23 (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) A method of treatment of or protection against an inflammatory disease, including autoimmune diseases, such as diabetes, arthritic diseases, atherosclerosis, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, comprising administering an effective amount of a peptide of 7-30 amino acids having the sequence of a part of the amino acid sequence of a microbial protein having a conserved mammalian stress protein homologue, said part comprising a T cell epitope corresponding to a T cell epitope of the mammalian homologue, said part further comprising at least 5 amino acids which are identical with corresponding amino acids in the same relative position in a T cell epitope of said mammalian stress protein, said epitope and said part containing at least 4 consecutive amino acids which are identical with the corresponding mammalian stress protein amino acids and thereby forming said T cell epitope corresponding to a T cell epitope of a mammalian homologue.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said stress protein is selected from heat-shock proteins and stress-induced enzymes.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein said heat-shock protein is heat shock protein hsp65 of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (identical to hsp65 of *M. bovis* BCG) as depicted in SEQ ID NO. 1.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the peptide comprises at least 5 amino acids which are identical with the corresponding amino acids in the same relative position in one of the sequences 81-100 and 241-270 of SEQ ID NO. 1.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the peptide comprises at least 5 amino acids which are identical with the corresponding amino acids in the same relative position in one of the sequences 84-95 and 256-265 of SEQ ID NO. 1.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein one or more of the amino acids residues has been exchanged with a residue of an amino acid having similar size, charge and polarity, or with amino acid mimetics resulting in one or more backbone modifications.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said part does not contain one or more sections of 5-30 amino acids corresponding to T cell epitopes of said microbial protein, the T cell which epitope of said microbial protein having less than 4 consecutive amino acids which are identical with the corresponding amino acids of said mammalian stress protein amino acids, such that said peptide includes a microbial T cell epitope having sufficient sequence identity with a T cell epitope of said mammalian stress protein homologue and lacks any microbial T cell epitope which does not have sufficient sequence identity with corresponding amino acids of said mammalian stress protein homologue.

31. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the peptide is administered parenterally, orally or nasally.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the peptide is administered nasally.